

BLAKE FARENTHOLD
27TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

DEPUTY WHIP

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COMMITTEES:
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

JUDICIARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4327

July 20, 2015

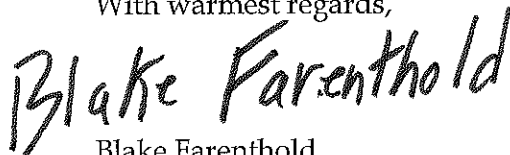
Dear President Obama,

I write to request the United States flags throughout the Country be lowered to half-staff out of the respect for the service members that were killed during last week's shooting in Chattanooga.

Events like those which transpired at Chattanooga are tragic. The service members who died never anticipated weapons of war being used against them while serving domestically within the security of U.S. borders. Whether this was a deliberate act of terror or the doings of a mentally unstable individual, the outcome remains the same. Four Marines and a Navy sailor were murdered because of the path they chose. They were murdered because they signed on the dotted line and devoted themselves to defending the United States of America. No one should be targeted in that way, and no one should be murdered for making the noble decision to serve on behalf of one's country.

Out of respect for those lost, I believe it would be prudent to lower the flags. The Chattanooga shooting was a horrific act, and America should take time to solemnly consider the events of last week. Lowering the flags to half-staff is one small gesture of respect that we, as a nation, can show to Petty Officer 2nd Class Randall Smith, Sergeant Carson Holmquist, Staff Sergeant David Wyatt, Lance Corporal Squire "Skip" Wells, and Gunnery Sergeant Thomas Sullivan.

With warmest regards,



Blake Farenthold
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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Dear Speaker Boehner,

I write to request the United States flags on the Capitol campus be lowered to half-staff out of the respect for the service members that were killed during last week's shooting in Chattanooga.

Events like those which transpired at Chattanooga are tragic. The service members who died never anticipated weapons of war being used against them while serving domestically within the security of U.S. borders. Whether this was a deliberate act of terror or the doings of a mentally unstable individual, the outcome remains the same. Four Marines and a Navy sailor were murdered because of the path they chose. They were murdered because they signed on the dotted line and devoted themselves to defending the United States of America. No one should be targeted in that way, and no one should be murdered for making the noble life decision to serve on behalf of one's country.

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